

HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. COURSE TITLE

Advanced Seminar in Language and Gender

2. COURSE CODE

ENGL4017

3. NO. OF UNITS

3 Units

4. OFFERING DEPARTMENT

Department of English Language and Literature

5. PREREQUISITES

ENGL2005 Introduction to the Study of Language

6. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

-

7. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

- 1) To introduce a range of current issues in the academic field of language and gender;
- 2) To explore different approaches to analysing the impact of gender in both spoken and written texts;
- 3) To encourage students to appreciate cultural variations on gendered language and identities;
- 4) To develop the students' awareness and critical thinking of gender in their own experiences of language use and learning; and
- 5) To develop the students' analytical skills to analyse data collected by students in various contexts by using the theoretical frameworks acquired in the course.

8. COURSE CONTENT

- I. Introduction: The history of research on language and gender
- II. Sociolinguistic studies on gender and language
- III. Gender and different linguistic and conversational features (e.g. communication in all-male/all-female groups and mix-sex groups)
- IV. Gender, language and education (language use, gender and power in the classroom)

- V. Gender, socialisation and identity (gender specific norms for appropriate behaviour: the 'real boy' and the 'nice girl' syndrome)
- VI. Gender and professional communication: male and female leadership, men and women talking in meetings etc
- VII. Gender and language in the media, gender and political correctness (e.g. portrayal of gender stereotypes)
- VIII. Sexism in language
- IX. Cross-cultural differences of gender in language (examples from diverse communities across the world)

9. COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (CILOs)

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	Describe the interrelationship between linguistic phenomena and gender
CILO 2	Critically discuss the differences between men and women's language based on different theories
CILO 3	Discuss possible causes and consequences of gender differences in language
CILO 4	Present evidence from different social and cultural contexts upon men and women's preference for different linguistic and communicative features
CILO 5	Apply their own experiences of language and gender to existing studies and theories
CILO 6	Carry out a small project on language and gender

10. TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)

CILO alignment	Type of TLA
CILO 1	Read recent literature on gender differences in communication
CILO 2	Critically discuss existing studies and theories on gender and communication via in-class discussion
CILO 3	- Discuss existing studies and theories on gender and communication via in-class discussion and assignment - Reflect on individual experiences of language and gender
CILO 4	- Collect genuine data regarding men and women's preference for different linguistic and communicative features
CILO 5	Apply students' own experiences of language and gender to existing studies and theories in their mini-project
CILO 6	Students need to collect authentic data of language and gender for their mini-project. Via the mini-project, students can understand the key literature on gender differences in communication, discuss existing studies and theories on gender and communication

11. ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)

Type of Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Individual assignment	20 %	1, 2, 3	The individual assignment will assess students' understanding of the interrelationship between linguistic phenomena and gender.
Mini-project and presentation	40 %	4, 5	The mini-project (25%) will require students to collect and analyze authentic data of language and gender, and to present (15%) the findings orally.
Examination	40 %	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	The final examination aims to assess students' abilities to critically explore the relationship between language use and gender.

Last Update: 2022-11-30
Published Date: 2023-01-04

*** END ***